A.—(a) The subsistence allowance paid to House Surgeons in the General Hospital was reduced from Rs. 50 to Rs. 30 per mensem as a measure of retrenchment.

(b) & (c) No; the Government see no necessity to raise the amount of subsistence allowance.

(d) House Surgeons are resident (paid) or non-resident (unpaid). The latter do not have night duties in the hospital. Both assist the Surgeon or Assistant Surgeon of the ward, to which they are posted, and help in the examination and study of patients, assist in operations and take their turn at night or other extra duties that may be allotted to them. Generally their duties consist in helping their seniors on the staff of the hospital.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know whether the Government think that Rs. 30 a month is enough for a House Surgeon to subsist upon?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"That is the remuneration fixed as a result of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the hon. the Minister recommend to the gentlemen concerned in the Retrenchment Committee and the Cabinet to restore the old rate?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Government have considered the matter carefully and they are of opinion that Rs. 30 additional remuneration is sufficient."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether it is the considered opinion of the Government that the minimum living wage for a House Surgeon is Rs. 30?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It is only a remuneration."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether any proposals have been sent up to Government by the Surgeon-General on this question with a view to increase the remuneration?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I must ask for notice."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know whether the hon. the Minister is aware of the fact that House Surgeons are not paid any salaries and this is the only allowance paid to them?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I am sorry I made a mistake."

*Ear, nose and throat operations performed by Lieut.-Col. Pandalai during the past two years.*

* 188 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the number of ear, nose and throat operations performed by the present First Surgeon (Lieut.-Col. Pandalai) in the Government General Hospital during the past two years?

A.—

| Year. | Number of operations performed. |
|---|---|
| 1931 ... ... ... ... ... | 14 |
| 1932 ... ... ... ... ... | 14 |

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" May I know if the hon. the Minister is aware of the fact that there is a specialist in charge of the ear, nose and throat clinics in the General Hospital and, if so, why the First Surgeon has been allowed to perform these operations? "

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" Owing to the number of operations which it is necessary to make, this arrangement might have been made."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" May I know whether the 14 cases in 1931 and another 14 in 1932 were the private cases of the First Surgeon or the public at large who seek admission into the hospital for ear, nose or throat trouble to be attended to by the Specialist? "

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" I am not aware of any such thing. This is the information supplied by the Surgeon-General."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" Will the hon. the Minister investigate it and ascertain whether these cases are the private cases of the Surgeon concerned or the cases of patients who sought admission to the General Hospital in the usual course? "

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" These are cases admitted in the General Hospital. I do not think there is any necessity to call for further report."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" May I know whether this Surgeon has been supplied with a separate set of apparatus required for operations of ear, nose and throat cases; and if so, why, when there is already a complete set in the custody of the Specialist? "

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" He must have the necessary instruments when he is called upon to carry on operations."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" In these days of retrenchment, is it proper that every Surgeon should be equipped with a separate set of apparatus? Is not one set enough for all the Surgeons? "

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" I am not competent to speak on these technical matters. I presume the Surgeon-General thought that another set was necessary."

Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam :—" May I know whether there is any rule that the same kind of operation should not be performed by two sets of apparatus at the same time? "

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" No, Sir."

Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam :—" If so, will not two sets be superfluous? "

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" No, Sir."